

Information Governance

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26 September 2023

Our reference: FOI DA4848

I am responding to your request for information received 24 July 2023. I am sorry for the delay in responding to your request. This has been treated as a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

When an organisation receives a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act, it is allowed under the Act to apply a blanket exemption to this where it has concluded that providing a response would take in excess of eighteen hours. When the cost of compliance and extracting information would exceed eighteen hours, a cost limit of £450 can be applied. This is explained in Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is based on a rate of £25 per hour, regardless of the rate of pay of any individual involved in the retrieval of requested information, and equates to eighteen hours work.

Having reviewed your request, the Trust has noted that it would not be able to provide all the information requested within the eighteen hours specified in the Freedom of Information Act 2000. However, in this instance we have provided a partial response to your request as per below.

In order to assist you with your request, I have advised below the timing each question would take to help you to refine your request. If you wish to refine your request to comply with the eighteen hour time limit, please do get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

Information Rights Coordinator



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'what matters' to everyone, achieve a better quality
of life and continuously improve our services.
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Interim Chief Executive Officer: Lorraine Sunduza
Chair: Eileen Taylor

If you are dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your FOIA request then you should contact us and we will arrange for an internal review of this decision.

If you remain dissatisfied with the decision following our response to your complaint, you may write to the Information Commissioner for a decision under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Tel: 0303 123 1113

Web: www.ico.org.uk

Please note that the data supplied is not allowed to be re-used and/or published without the explicit consent of East London NHS Foundation Trust. Please contact the signatory to request permission if this is your intention



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Request:

Question 1: When junior doctors are not on strike, how much is the average consultant at your trust paid for the following:
a) Day shift
b) Night shift

Answer: Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

Section 12(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

When the Trust identifies that the request is likely to take over eighteen hours, we are not obliged to provide information for any part of the request. We are required to provide advice on how you may refine your request to information that can be collated within the eighteen hour timeframe. You may then choose what information you would like to receive and confirm the same to us, upon which we will process your request.

The Trust has reviewed your request for information and in order to collate this information, staff would have to search all salaries of staff that covered shifts and estimates that it would take three hours to collate.

Question 2: When junior doctors are not on strike, how much is the average junior doctor at your trust paid for the following:
a) Day shift
b) Night shift

Answer: Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

Section 12(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

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The Trust has reviewed your request for information and in order to collate this information, staff would have to search all salaries of staff that covered shifts then calculate average for day and night shifts. This is estimated to take three hours to collate.

Question 3: Over the days 13th, 14th, 15th March and 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th April 2023, when Junior doctors were on strike, how much was the average consultant at your trust paid to cover a junior doctor's shift for:
a) Day shift
b) Night shift

Answer: Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

Section 12(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.



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The Trust has reviewed your request for information and in order to collate this information, staff would have to search all salaries of staff that covered shifts then calculate average for day and night shifts. This is estimated to take six hours to collate.

Question 4: How much did the trust spend on senior doctors/consultants' salaries in total to cover the junior doctors' shifts when the junior doctors were on strike in March and April 2023?

- 13th March
- 14th March
- 15th March
- 11th April
- 12th April
- 13th April
- 14th April

Answer: Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

Section 12(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

When the Trust identifies that the request is likely to take over eighteen hours, we are not obliged to provide information for any part of the request. We are required to provide advice on how you may refine your request to information that can be collated within the eighteen hour timeframe. You may then choose what information you would like to receive and confirm the same to us, upon which we will process your request.

The Trust has reviewed your request for information and in order to collate this information, staff would have to search all salaries of staff that covered shifts then calculate average for day and night shifts. This is estimated to take six hours to collate.

Question 5: How much did the trust spend on senior doctor/consultants' salaries in total on dates in March and April 2023 when junior doctors were not on strike?

- 20th March
- 21st March
- 22nd March
- 18th April
- 19th April
- 20th April
- 21st April

Answer: Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

Section 12(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.



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The Trust has reviewed your request for information and in order to collate this information, staff would have to search all salaries of staff that covered shifts then calculate average for day and night shifts. This is estimated to take four hours to collate.

Question 6: During the junior doctors strike days in March and April 2023, how much did your trust spend on locum/agency staff to cover shifts?

- 13th March
- 14th March
- 15th March
- 11th April
- 12th April
- 13th April
- 14th April

Answer: The Trust has reviewed question 6 of your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

*Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled—
(a) to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request, and
(b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to them.*

East London NHS Foundation Trust does not record the information requested broken down by days however, in an effort to be helpful, we are providing total figures by month as follows:

Total spend for March 2023 – £8838.00

Total spend for April 2023 – £9528.00

Question 7: How much extra money did your trust pay during the junior doctors' strike days (13th, 14th, 15th March and 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th April) in total?

Answer: Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states:

Section 12(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

When the Trust identifies that the request is likely to take over eighteen hours, we are not obliged to provide information for any part of the request. We are required to provide advice on how you may refine your request to information that can be collated within the eighteen hour timeframe. You may then choose what information you would like to receive and confirm the same to us, upon which we will process your request.



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The Trust has reviewed your request for information and in order to collate this information, staff would have to search all salaries of staff that covered shifts then calculate additional payments. This is estimated to take four hours to collate.

Question 8: How did your trust afford to pay for extra locum staff/ agency staff/ senior doctors/consultants to cover junior doctors' shifts during the strike days in March and April 2023? Where did the money come from?

Answer: The Trust did not receive any additional funding to cover staffing costs during the strike action.

Question 9: How much did your trust spend on giving locum shifts to junior doctors during the strike days in March and April 2023?

- 13th March
- 14th March
- 15th March
- 11th April
- 12th April
- 13th April
- 14th April

Answer: Nil.

Question 10: How many junior doctors who were on strike from your trust were employed as locums on strike days in March? And in April? (please supply individual figures for each month).

Answer: The Trust's striking doctors were not employed as locums. However, the Trust cannot determine whether doctors employed by ELFT who were on strike worked at other NHS trusts as bank or agency locums.



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